GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1140
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
APPROVAL TO PENDING PROPOSALS
Munshiram Shri

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is contemplating to approve proposals received from various States to carry out developmental activities on forest land;

(b) whether the delay in according approval to these proposals has resulted in cost escalation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action proposed/taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests receives proposals from the State/Union Territory Governments for use of forest land for non-forestry purposes, including developmental activities, for which prior approval of the Central Government is required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposals are considered by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under the Act before being put up for approval of the competent authority.

(b) to (d) Examination of proposals for forestry clearance is a continuous process. Therefore, at any point of time, some proposals always remain under consideration of the Ministry. Information about cost escalation because of time taken in consideration of the proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is not compiled by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.